## Supplementary Materials for

## Conventional *vs* Microwave- or Mechanically-Assisted Synthesis of Dihomooxacalix[4]arene Phthalimides: NMR, X-ray and Photophysical Analysis

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**Figure S1.** Partial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 22 °C) of compounds: (a) mono-propylphthalimides **2a+2b**, (b) mono-ethylphthalimides **5a+5b** and (c) 1,3-di- and 3,4-di-ethylphthalimides **6a+6b**.

Compd	$OH_1$	OH <sub>2</sub>	OH <sub>3</sub>	<i>t</i> -Bu <sub>1</sub>	t-Bu <sub>2</sub>	<i>t</i> -Bu <sub>3</sub>	<i>t</i> -Bu <sub>4</sub>
mono 2b	8.43	8.68	8.94	1.19	1.21	1.22	1.25
mono <b>5b</b>	8.30	8.52	8.64	1.18	1.19	1.20	1.24
3,4-di <b>6b</b>	7.47			1.04	1.25		

Table S1a. <sup>1</sup>H NMR data (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 22 °C) of dihomooxa phthalimide derivatives

Table S1b. <sup>1</sup>H NMR data (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 22 °C) of dihomooxa phthalimide derivatives

Compd	$ArH_1$	ArH <sub>2</sub>	ArH <sub>3</sub>	ArH <sub>4</sub>	ArH <sub>5</sub>	ArH <sub>6</sub>	ArH <sub>7</sub>	ArH <sub>8</sub>
mono 5b	6.74	6.98	6.99	6.99	7.10	7.11	7.16	7.44
3,4-di <b>6b</b>	6.84	6.88	6.95	7.21				

**Table S2.** Comparison of intramolecular hydrogen bonding interactions found in various dihomooxacalix[4]arenes. H-bond distances of bifurcated H-bonds, with one donor and two acceptor atoms, are reported on the same row. Atom labels: O1A(B)(C)(D) = calixarene hydroxyl/alkoxyl O atom; O2B bridging O atom; O3C phthalimide O atom

molecule	D-H•••A	d(D••••A) (Å)
<b>2a</b> <sup>*</sup> (I)	O(1A)-H•••O(1D) •••O(3C)	2.885(7), 3.047(6)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.912(6), 2.789(6)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C) •••O(3C)	2.682(6), 3.219(6)
(II)	O(1A)-H•••O(1D) •••O(3C)	2.775(6), 3.271(6)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.923(5), 2.862(6)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C) •••O(3C)	2.692(5), 3.297(6)
(III)	O(1A)-H•••O(1D) •••O(3C)	2.884(6), 3.587(6)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.917(5), 2.784(5)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C) •••O(3C)	2.734(5), 3.424(6)
(IV)	O(1A)-H•••O(1D) •••O(3C)	2.889(6), 3.237(19)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	3.088(5), 2.723(5)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C) •••O(3C)	2.720(5), 3.040(19)
<b>3a</b> **(I)	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.935(1), 2.776(1)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C)	2.828(1)
(II)	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.900(1), 2.830(1)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C)	2.813(1)
(III)	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.936(1), 2.792(1)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C)	2.808(1)
<b>3</b> b	O(1A)-H•••O(1D)	2.793(1)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	3.129(1), 2.737(1)
5a	O(1A)-H•••O(1D) •••O(3C)	2.876(2), 3.133(2)
	O(1B)-H•••O(1A) •••O(2B)	2.851(2), 2.797(2)
	O(1D)-H•••O(1C) •••O(3C)	2.681(2), 2.974(2)

\*Four crystallographically independent molecules; \*\*Three crystallographically independent molecules.

**Table S3.** Comparison of phthalimide substituent orientation: Dihedral angles between the phthalimide planes and the mean plane of the bridging methylene carbon atoms ( $\alpha$  plane), between the phthalimide planes and the corresponding aryl plane of the calixarene to which the substituent is attached ( $\beta$  plane) and between the two phthalimide planes ( $\gamma$  plane) are reported for various dihomoaxacalix[4]arenes. See Figure 5 for description of aryl rings A, B, C and D. The torsion angles of the phthalimide linker chain starting from the alkoxy bond are also reported.

molecule	aryl	α	β	γ	Torsion angles C-C-O-C-C-N-C				
<b>2a</b> <sup>*</sup> (I)	С	78.3	65.2		93.7	-176.9	-56.5	174.9	90.6
(II)	С	76.1	59.4		95.4	-177.5	-59.9	173.5	97.0
(III)	С	74.6	55.1		100.9	173.1	-65.0	169.1	104.7
(IV)	С	79.4	58.0		93.1	-173.6	-51.1	172.2	92.3
<b>3a</b> **(I)	А	11.9	46.2	76.0	-82.6	-158.4	-175.8	-57.0	102.9
	С	83.3	33.0		-86.5	146.5	55.5	-179.0	76.4
(II)	А	42.7	26.8	15.8	-85.2	-174.0	-175.3	174.5	107.0
	С	28.1	76.5		-88.3	-165.4	-62.9	-62.7	135.3
(III)	А	9.4	48.3	87.9	-72.1	-137.7	172.3	-68.4	104.3
	С	85.1	61.0		-92.0	173.9	-64.2	-173.4	93.1
<b>3</b> b	С	32.9	113.3	8.6	-69.0	-92.4	-72.8	170.5	80.6
	D	24.4	54.4		-91.6	-175.7	168.1	57.4	82.8
5a	С	22.5	102.1		-87.8	166.3	66.9	2.0	#

\*Four crystallographically independent molecules; \*\*Three crystallographically independent molecules. #Torsion angles C-C-O-C-C-N-C.



**Figure S2.** Absorption and fluorescence spectral overlap for **1-1** (homotransfer) (a) and for **1-B** (heterotransfer) (b) energy transfer donor-acceptor pairs.

Emission spectra were corrected for the spectral response of the optics and the photomultiplier. Fluorescence quantum yields were measured against quinine sulfate as ( $\Phi_F = 0.546$  in H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> 0.5 M) [1]. Fluorescence quantum yields were determined using equation 1:

$$\Phi = \Phi_r \left(\frac{I}{I_r}\right) \left(\frac{A_r}{A}\right) \left(\frac{n^2}{n_r^2}\right) \tag{1}$$

where  $\Phi$  is the quantum yield, *I* is the integrated fluorescence emission intensity, *A* denotes the absorbance at the excitation wavelength, with subscript *r* referring to the reference, and *n* and *n<sub>r</sub>* are the refractive indices of dichloromethane and water, respectively [2]. Time-resolved fluorescence intensity decays were obtained using the single-photon timing method with laser excitation and microchannel plate detection, with the set-up already described [3]. The excitation wavelength used was between 280 nm (**A** and **1**) and 295 nm (**B**, **3a** and **3b**) and the emission wavelengths was at the maximum emission for **A** and for **1** and 400 nm for **3a** and **3b**, using a front-face geometry. The timescale varied between 1.22 (**3a**) and 16.3 ps (**3b**) per channel. Decay data analysis with a sum of exponentials was achieved by means of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet specially designed for lifetime analysis that considers the convolution with the IRF [4]. The steady-state fluorescence anisotropies are defined by equation 2:

$$r = \frac{I_{\parallel} - I_{\perp}}{I_{\parallel} + 2I_{\perp}} \tag{2}$$

where  $I_{\parallel}$  and  $I_{\perp}$  are the fluorescence intensity observed with vertically polarized excitation light and vertically and horizontally polarized emission, respectively *r* values were determined using the *G*-factor method [5,6].

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## Crystallographic Data and Refinement Details of 2a, 3a, 3b and 5a

The asymmetric unit of the monoclinic crystals of 2a (C2/c space group) (Figure S3) contains four crystallographically independent dihomooxacalix[4]arene molecules and 5.25 co-crystallised acetonitrile solvent molecules in six different sites, five at full occupancy (four located inside the calixarene cavities) and one with 0.25 occupancy. Two-position disorder was found for four tertbutyl groups, one for each independent molecule. One crystallographically independent molecule of 2a also shows a two-position disorder of the complete phthalimide substituent, including the propyl linker. This disorder was refined with 0.67/0.33 partial occupancies. SIMU restraints were applied to the thermal factors of the lower occupancy phthalimide atoms.

The asymmetric unit of the monoclinic crystals of 3a (C2/c space group) (Figure S3) contains three crystallographically independent dihomooxacalix[4]arene molecules, four co-crystallised acetonitrile solvent molecules (three located inside the calixarene cavities) and a half water molecule. Two-position disorder was found for a *tert*-butyl group on two different independent molecules. The other independent molecule of 3a shows a two-position disorder (0.67/0.33 partial occupancies) of the complete phthalimide substituent, including the propyl linker. Two acetonitrile independent molecules show a two-position disorder of the C-N groups only, with the methyl carbon atoms superimposed. One molecule located inside the calixarene cavity was refined with 0.80/0.20 occupancy factors, with the other, external to the cavity, was refined with 0.67/0.33 occupancy factors.

The asymmetric unit of the monoclinic crystals of **3b** (P2<sub>1</sub>/c space group) (Figure **S3**) contains one crystallographically independent dihomooxacalix[4]arene molecules and three cocrystallised acetonitrile solvent molecules. The acetonitrile molecule hosted in the calixarene cavity shows a two-position disorder (0.80/0.20 partial occupancies) of the C-N group only, with the methyl carbon atoms superimposed.

The asymmetric unit of the triclinic crystals of 5a (P-1 space group) (Figure S3) contains one crystallographically independent dihomooxacalix[4]arene molecules, 1.45 dichloromethane and 0.35 ethanol co-crystallised solvent molecules. Two different solvent sites are present in the crystal packing, one inside the cavity of the calixarene and one between the calixarene molecules. Both sites contain superimposed dichloromethane and ethanol solvent molecules with partially occupancy. The internal calixarene site was refined with 0.80 dichloromethane and 0.20 ethanol, while the external site was refined with 0.65 dichloromethane and 0.15 ethanol.



Figure S3. Asymmetric units of 2a, 3a, 3b and 5a. The atomic species are represented in CPK colours. Ellipsoids are drawn at 50% probability, except for 2a, in which the ellipsoids are represented at 30% probability. Hydrogen atoms and disordered fragments are omitted for clarity.

	2a	<b>3</b> a	<b>3</b> b	5a
Empirical	C56H67NO7,	C67H76N2O9,	C67H76N2O9,	C55H65NO7,
formula	$1.31(C_2H_3N)$	$1.33(C_2H_3N),$	$3(C_2H_3N)$	1.45(CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> ),
		0.17(H <sub>2</sub> O)		$0.35(C_2H_6O)$
Formula	919.99	1111.03	1176.45	991.34
weight				
Temperature	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)	100(2)
(K)				
Wavelength	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
(Å)				
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Triclinic
Space group	<i>C</i> 2/c	<i>C</i> 2/c	$P 2_{1}/c$	P -1
Unit cell	a = 32.91(2)	a = 35.163(3)	a = 24.749(2)	a = 13.505(1)
dimensions	b = 28.74(2)	b = 20.096(1)	b = 14.546(1)	b = 14.034(1)
(Å, °)	c = 47.12(3)	c = 53.262(3)	c = 19.676(1)	c = 16.110(1)
	$\alpha = 90$	$\alpha = 90$	$\alpha = 90$	$\alpha = 67.604(8)$
	$\beta = 102.96(1)$	$\beta = 95.151(8)$	$\beta = 108.76(2)$	$\beta = 89.55(3)$
0.5	$\gamma = 90$	$\gamma = 90$	$\gamma = 90$	$\gamma = 75.302(7)$
Volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	43430(50)	37485(4)	6707(1)	2717.1(4)
Z	32	24	4	2
ho calcd (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.126	1.181	1.165	1.212
$\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	0.070	0.075	0.073	0.204
F(000)	15836	14280	2520	1056
Reflections	116851	360398	127997	76308
collected				
Independent	31039	52023	18778	15865
reflections	$[R_{int} = 0.0963]$	$[R_{int} = 0.0379]$	$[R_{int} = 0.0273]$	$[R_{int} = 0.0387]$
Data/restr./para	31039/15/2591	52023/0/2480	18778/0/812	15865/6/662
m.				
GooF	1.045	1.033	1.049	1.035
Final <i>R</i> indices	$R_1 = 0.0968,$	$R_1 = 0.0534,$	$R_1 = 0.0384,$	$R_1 = 0.0627,$
[I>2σ(I)]	$wR_2 = 0.2374$	$wR_2 = 0.1409$	$wR_2 = 0.1072$	$wR_2 = 0.1702$
R indices	$R_1 = 0.1431,$	$R_1 = 0.065,$	$R_1 = 0.0426,$	$R_1 = 0.0761,$
(all data)	$wR_2 = 0.2693$	$wR_2 = 0.151$	$wR_2 = 0.111$	$wR_2 = 0.1811$
CCDC code	2057047	2057046	2057044	2057045

Table S4. Crystal data and structure refinement for compounds 2a, 3a, 3b and 5a



Figure S4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monopropylphthalimide 2a.



Figure S5. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-dipropylphthalimide **3a**.



Figure S6. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 3,4-dipropylphthalimide 3b.



Figure S7. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monoethylphthalimide 5a.



Figure S8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-diethylphthalimide 6a.



Figure S9. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monopropylphthalimide 2a.



Figure S10. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-dipropylphthalimide 3a.



Figure S11. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 3,4-dipropylphthalimide 3b.



Figure S12. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monoethylphthalimide 5a.



Figure S13. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum (125.8 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-diethylphthalimide 6a.



Figure S14. COSY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monopropylphthalimide 2a.



Figure S15. COSY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-dipropylphthalimide 3a.



Figure S16. COSY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 3,4-dipropylphthalimide 3b.



Figure S17. COSY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monoethylphthalimide 5a.



Figure S18. COSY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-diethylphthalimide 6a.



Figure S19. NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monopropylphthalimide 2a.



Figure S20. NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-dipropylphthalimide 3a.



Figure S21. NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 3,4-dipropylphthalimide 3b.



Figure S22. NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of monoethylphthalimide 5a.



Figure S23. NOESY spectrum (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, rt) of 1,3-diethylphthalimide 6a.